

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Sixth

(26) TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

SULPHUR SPRING

Missionary Baptist Association

HELD WITH THE

CANE CREEK CHURCH

October 7, 8, and 9, 1898

OFFICERS

Moderator, I. C. McCrARY, Partridge, Ala.

Clerk, D. L. JAMES, Blount Springs, Ala.

Cor. Secretary, J. F. McNEAL, Sloan, Ala.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

S. T. GRIFFITH, *Chairman*, Sloan, Ala.

WM. ROUSE, Warrior, Ala.

I. C. McCrARY, Partridge, Ala.

W. R. GRUBBS, Sloan, Ala.

W. R. MARTIN, Blount Springs, Ala.

The next session to be held with Mt. Olive Church, three miles west of Blount Springs, beginning Friday before second Sunday in October, 1899

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AMERICAN BAPTIST PUBLICATION SOCIETY

PROCEEDINGS.

The Sulphur Springs Missionary Baptist Association met with Cane Creek Church, Friday, October 7, 1898, at 11 o'clock, a. m., according to previous appointment.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder J. E. Creel, from Rom. 12:1, after which Elder Doc. McCrary led in prayer.

Adjourned one hour and a half for dinner.

FRIDAY EVENING.

Met at 1:30 p. m., and was called to order by the former Moderator. Elder W. R. Fulmer, who led the congregation in prayer. Letters were called for, and brethren J. E. Creel and L. E. Ware were appointed to read the letters.

Letters were received and read, giving names of delegates elected by their respective churches as follows:

Union (Jefferson county)—I. C. McCrary, O. H. Rowe, L. E. Ware, W. R. Speakman, and J. H. McCrary alternate.

Mt. Joy—Robt. Daniel, W. E. Dollar, Wesley Forrester, A. P. Wilson, and Jas. R. Dutton alternate.

New Hope—C. Whitfield, J. B. Sapp, W. A. McAlpin, and J. A. Hall alternate.

New Antioch—F. M. Leith, J. W. Dean, J. A. Smith, and Walter Parker alternate.

Sulphur Springs—J. W. Trotter, A. S. Young, J. H. James, J. M. Saulin, C. P. Dean, and D. Dean alternate.

Pilgrim's Rest—T. P. Vanderver, R. Kemp, and B. A. Parker.

Cane Creek—Wm. Rouse, John Thomas, J. W. Barrow, Z. Y. Roberts, and Dr. M. Roberts alternate.

Mt. Zion—R. F. Wooten, J. D. Goodson, G. L. Bradford, Henry Jacobs, and J. J. Kyle alternate.

Pisga—J. L. Burtin, D. W. Burtin, and H. H. Buzbee.

Mt. High—J. R. Russell, Z. W. Shipp, and M. M. Russell.

Fair View—Jesse Stephens, J. W. Gravlee, T. J. Boyd, and James Grubbs alternate.

Arkadelphia—J. M. James, Wm. Rimels, Blain Parker, Ben W. Huffman, and W. T. Bagwell alternate.

Harmony—S. T. Griffith, W. R. Fulmer, S. G. Robins, J. D. Griffith, and T. A. Hancock.

Mt. Hope—J. R. Jefferson, J. Gresham, Jesse York, and Bige Watson.

Next preceded to organize. The former clerk being absent, Bro. G. A. Sloan was appointed clerk pro tem. Then the body proceeded, by ballot, to elect officers, which resulted in the election of Elder I. C. McCrary Moderator, Elder D. L. James Clerk, and Bro. J. F. McNeal Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer. The body also elected the former Executive Board to serve another year, and authorized said board to appoint a chairman should their chairman be absent at any of their meetings.

Called for new churches; none reported. Suspended the regular order of business and appointed Committee on Devotion, to-wit: John Goodson, Jesse Stephens and deacons of Cane Creek church.

Called for correspondents. Received from Birmingham Association the following brethren: J. C. Carlisle, Elder J. W. Ragland, Sam Creel, W. J. Creel, Elder J. E. Creel, Matthew Hughes and Robert Smith; from Cullman Association, N. C. Osborn; Mineral Springs, G. A. Sloan and Elder John Hughes; Clear Creek, Elder Doc McCrary and John McCrary.

Returned correspondents.

It was moved and carried that any brethren visiting other associations present themselves as correspondents.

At this juncture the Devotional Committee reported that Elder T. P. Vanderver would preach at night, followed by Elder T. A. Hancock.

The Moderator appointed special committees as follows:

On Documents—J. D. Goodson and J. W. Barrows.

Finance—Wm. Rouse and M. M. Russell.

Superannuated Ministers—J. M. Sanlin and L. E. Ware.

Deceased Ministers and Deacons—J. A. Sanlin and H. A. Jacobs.

Adjourned until 8:30 a. m. Saturday.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

Met at 8:30 a. m. After singing and reading Scriptures by the Moderator, prayer was offered by Elder T. P. Vanderver.

Called for report of Executive Committee, which, together with all other standing committees, were laid over till 2 o'clock p. m.

Appointed ministers to preach annual sermons, to-wit:—

Introductory—Elder G. S. Sloan, Elder J. R. Jefferson alternate.

Missionary Sermon—Elder T. A. Hancock, Elder T. P. Vanderver alternate.

Report on documents received and adopted.

Mt. Olive church being the only one asking for the association, it was agreed that the body meet at Mt. Olive, three miles west of Blount Springs, Ala., in the Sanders and Rice Settlements, beginning Friday before the second Sunday in October, 1899.

The regular order of business was suspended and Elder G. S. Sloan invited to a seat in the body, and Elder G. B. Powell received as a correspondent from Birmingham Association.

Devotional Committee reported that Elder G. S. Sloan preach at 11 a.m., J. R. Jefferson to follow.

Received and adopted report on superannuated ministers also deceased ministers and deacons.

Report on Sunday school received and tabled till 9 o'clock Sunday morning for discussion.

Received and adopted report of finance.

Adjourned till 1 p. m. for preaching and dinner.

SATURDAY EVENING SESSION.

At 1 p. m. the Moderator called the house to order. After singing prayer was led by Elder D. L. James.

Received report on education, and after being ably discussed by Elder John Hughes, it was adopted.

Report of Executive Board was received and adopted.

Adjourned till 9 o'clock Sunday morning.

Report of Elder T. A. Hancock, Associational Missionary, was received and adopted.

Report on Missions was received and discussed by several of the brethren and then adopted.

Report on Temperance was received, and after an enthusiastic discussion was adopted.

Moved and carried, that the clerk have 350 minutes printed, and keep balance of minute funds for his services, if any left.

The Moderator and Clerk appointed standing committees as follows:

Temperance—L. E. Ware and H. H. Buzbee.

Educational—High McNeal and J. W. Trotter.

Missions—S. T. Griffith and T. A. Hancock.

Sabbath Schools—D. L. James and W. R. Fulmor.

It is the duty of these committees to have their reports ready, and read them when they are called for, and the chairman is expected to open the discussion on each report.

SUNDAY MORNING.

Met at 9 a. m. Devotion by the Moderator. Took up report on Sabbath Schools. Discussion opened by the chairman, Elder J. R. Jeffer-

son. There were interesting speeches made by several ministers and laymen, and then the report was adopted.

Received and adopted report of thanks. The body agreed that the Executive Board employ a Sunday School Evangelist, whose duties shall be to travel all over the Association, deliver lectures, distribute literature, preach and organize Sunday schools in every church and community in the bounds of the Association where there are none. The churches are expected to come up to their former pledges and give at least five cents for each member, which may be paid to the Treasurer, Bro. Frank McNeal, or the Evangelist when he comes around, who shall report the amount he collects to the Treasurer.

Elder J. W. Trotter preached the missionary sermon at 11 o'clock and took up a collection amounting to \$5.40, which was turned over to Wm. Rouse to hand to the Treasurer, Bro. Frank McNeal.

The Moderator then asked the congregation to sing, and the parting hand was extended and the body adjourned to meet next year as above mentioned. A short prayer was offered by Elder G. S. Sloan.

I. C. McCrary, Moderator.

D. L. James, Clerk.

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

First District meets with Mt. Zion church Friday before the first Sunday in August, 1899. Information as to annual sermons not being furnished the Clerk, the preachers appointed will remember their time, etc.

Second District meets with New Antioch church Friday before the first Sabbath in August, 1899. Elder T. J. Holcombe will preach introductory sermon, Elder J. R. Jefferson alternate; Elder F. M. Leith will preach missionary sermon, Elder T. P. Vanderver alternate.

REPORTS IN THEIR REGULAR ORDER.

1. Vote of Thanks.—Resolved that this body tender their most sincere thanks to the church and all the people at and around Cane Creek who so kindly entertained us during our stay with them.

D. L. James, Chairman.

2. Report on Deceased Ministers and Deacons.—Your committee beg leave to say we learn that the Good Lord has spared all our ministers and deacons another year.

3. Report on Temperance.—Your Committee on Temperance submit the following: We find the cause of temperance is slowly but steadily gaining ground. Intemperance is an evil, and to exterminate evil in any form we need an increase of spirituality and a spread of our holy

religion. Religion is light, and always drives before it darkness. We, therefore, advise that our Baptist people teach by precept and example that the saloon and stillhouse ought to be a thing of the past.

If every Baptist in this country will spend, for the next twelve months, for missions what they have spent in the last twelve months for whisky, souls will be saved. But if withheld, souls will be lost. Let us talk up temperance; let us work and pray for temperance, and pray that God may overrule all evil in this matter. G. S. Sloan, Chairman.

4. Report on Superannuated Ministers.—We your Committee on Superannuated Ministers find no such within our bounds.

J. M. Sanlin, Chairman.

5. Report of Special Committee on Finance.—We your committee beg leave to report for minutes, \$17.25; Foreign Missions, \$1.00; Home Missions, \$1.00; State Missions, \$1.00. Total, \$20.25.

Wm. Rouse, Chairman.

6. Report on Education.—Your committee, by investigation, find the subject of education is beginning to exercise the minds of the people as it never has before, and not only in a literary sense, for education means elevation to the higher planes of usefulness, development and improvement upon a God-given intellect, as it prepares our children to walk in spheres of usefulness, both in Church and State. We, therefore, recommend the patronage of the Howard College for our boys, and the Judson for our girls, as they are good Baptist schools and look well to the moral, religious and mental training of our youth. We find our boys and girls are taking advantage of the opportunities offered them.

J. A. Sanlin, Chairman.

7. Report on Documents.—Your Committee on Documents make the following report: We find that Mt. Olive church asks for the next Association to meet with them.

J. D. Goodson, Chairman.

8. Report of Executive Committee.—We your committee report as follows: After considering the mission work, we decided to employ Elder T. A. Hancock as missionary pastor at Good Hope and Fairview churches. We have paid for this work \$16.00, the amount in the hands of the committee.

T. A. Griffith, Chairman.

9. Missionary's Report.—I beg leave to report as follows: Number of miles traveled, 180; number sermons preached, 48; amount of money received, \$16.00 from Executive Board, \$5.00 from Fairview church, \$9.75 from Arkadelphia church, 75 cents from Harmony church, 40 cents from New Hope church, \$12.80 from New Antioch church, \$3.00 from Cold Spring meeting. Total, \$40.70.

T. A. Hancock, Missionary.

10. Report on Missions.—We your committee report as follows: We

consider that no stronger appeal for missions can be made than the statistics here given:

Africa, with its 135,000,000 heathen souls, has one Baptist missionary to every 14,500,000 people. The Sulphur Springs Association has one to every 400. Which is in greater need of the Gospel?

China, with its 305,000,000 pagans, who know not God, has about 35 Baptist missionaries, about as many as we have preachers in our Association. Think of it! Three hundred million souls in that darkness beyond description, and the blessed Word of God chiming out: "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." We have a church membership there numbering about the same as our Association.

Japan, with 39,800 souls in pagan darkness, to be saved or lost, has one Baptist to every 1,500,000 people. The Sulphur Springs Association has one to every 16, Alabama one to every 14.

In the face of these facts, where is the Baptist so blind as to oppose missions? Where is one so heartless as to withhold his hand? With Africa dying without the Gospel, with China dying without it, with Japan without it, South Americans, Australians, Cubans, North Americans and yea! Alabama's own people dying without the glorious Gospel which is able to save to the uttermost. We would ask in God's name, Who is doing all they can? We would recommend that each pastor and delegate secure at least 5 cents per member for this grand purpose during the year; that we co-operate heartily with all our mission boards. If you would regard the great commission, let us do all we can, if not, let us quit advocating the cause.

John D. Keith, Chairman.

11. Treasurer's Report for 1897-98.—I beg leave to make this my annual report:

Amount carried over	\$ 1.66
Public collection last Association	13.54
Mt. Olive Church	1.00
Democrat	40

Total	\$16.60
Amount paid out by order of Executive Board	\$15.54

Balance on hand \$ 1.06
Amount received from all sources:—

Foreign Missions	\$1.80
Home Missions	20
State Missions	20

Total \$2.20

Paid out as follows:—

Foreign Missions	\$1.80
State Missions	20— 2.00

Total on hand Home Missions 20

Total of all moneys on hand \$1.26

J. F. McNeal, Chairman.

12. Report on Sabbath Schools.—Your committee find from letters that our people are taking more interest in Sabbath schools. We find more than half the churches report good Sabbath schools. We would recommend that pastors urge upon their churches the great necessity of Evergreen Sabbath Schools, and see that one is organized and kept up in every church they serve. May God help us to do more in the future than we have in the past to carry on this great work.

J. R. Jefferson, Chairman.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

T. D. Holecomb, Country, Ala.	J. C. Thomas, Willow, Ala.
W. R. Fulmor, Sloan, Ala.	G. S. Sloan, Sloan, Ala.
J. R. Jefferson, Gravelton, Ala.	D. L. James, Blount Springs, Ala.
W. J. McCrary, Partridge, Ala.	M. M. Russell, Willow, Ala.
P. T. Vanderver, Palos, Ala.	M. N. McDaniel, Arkadelphia, Ala.
T. A. Hancock, Sloan, Ala.	F. M. Leith, Garrison's Point, Ala.
J. D. Keith, Bangor, Ala.	

LICENSED MINISTERS.

J. W. Dean, Arkadelphia, Ala.	H. B. Martin, Arkadelphia, Ala.
O'Neal Kelly, Jones' Chapel, Ala.	I. C. McCrary, Partridge, Ala.

CONSTITUTION OF THE SULPHUR SPRINGS BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

1. This body shall be known as the Sulphur Springs Missionary Baptist Association.

2. It shall be formed of delegates from all the churches who may connect themselves with the union.

3. Any church may be admitted into this Association by the general consent of the members present, at any regular meeting.

4. Any church may withdraw from it at its own discretion, on application for dismission.

5. Any church in this Association may send three delegates. When a church has fifty members it may send four delegates, and an additional delegate for each fifty members thereafter.

6. At each session of this Association, a Moderator, Recording and Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer, shall be elected by ballot from among the members, who will hold their offices till their successors are elected.

7. The meeting of the delegates shall be held annually as the body may appoint.

8. The design of this body is to promote the cause of true religion with the several churches of which it is, or may be composed, by domestic missions, the education of pious and promising young men called of God to the ministry, and by other benevolent plans, so far as the church may enable them by other voluntary contributions.

9. In addition to the objects specified in the foregoing article, this Association will extend its favorable regard to all the benevolent plans now cherished and supported by evangelical Christians.

10. As it respects the internal concerns of the churches, this body shall have no authority, but shall be considered merely as an advisory council.

11. This Association shall be the judge of her own members, and will not hold as a member a church who holds as a member any person who teaches heterodoxy, traffics in any way with intoxicating liquors (except physicians), or is guilty of any other crime mentioned in 5th chapter of Galatians as works of the flesh.

12. As it respects our internal or general concerns and for the mutual benefit of each the churches composing this union, it shall be the duty of each church to forward with her delegates a written communication to each annual meeting of this Association, specifying the names of delegates and the state of their churches.

13. Any church being thoroughly convinced that she has a member called of God to the work of the ministry and believes it her duty to send him out to preach the gospel shall call a Presbytery of ministers, who, in connection with and in presence of the church, proceed to examine the candidate and if deemed qualified, may ordain him to the full work of the ministry and report the same to this Association, together with all licensed ministers, so their names may be entered upon the minutes.

14. All Presbyteries in ordaining ministers, deacons or constituting churches shall be governed by the Abstract of Faith adopted by this Association.

15. The business of this Association is to be committed to a board of five members, three of whom shall constitute a quorum to transact business, and to make reports at the next session of the Association, and to be appointed annually by the body while in session.

16. The delegates from the churches shall be considered as holding their appointments until others are appointed to succeed them.

17. This constitution may be altered or amended at any regular meeting of the body by a two-thirds vote, provided, the proposed change be in writing on the table twelve hours before the vote is taken.

ABSTRACT OF FAITH.

Article 1. We believe in one only true and living God, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Art. 2. We believe that the Scriptures comprising the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

Art. 3. We believe in the doctrine of election and that God chose his people in Christ before the foundation of the world, to be holy.

Art. 4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

Art. 5. We believe in man's incapacity by his own will and ability to recover himself from the fallen state in which he is by nature.

Art. 6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God by the imputed righteousness of Christ only.

Art. 7. We believe the blessings of salvation are made free to all the human family by the gospel, that it is the duty of all intelligent persons to accept them with a cordial, persistent and obedient faith; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, but his or her refusal voluntary rejection of the gospel requirements, repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, which rejection involves them into condemnation without defense or excuse.

Art. 8. We believe the saint will persevere in grace and never finally fall away.

Art. 9. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are only subjects of baptism, and that immersion is the Apostolic mode.

Art. 10. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and the final judgment, that the felicity of the righteous will be everlasting and the punishment of the wicked eternal.

Art. 11. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances of the gospel except one who is regularly baptized, called and come under the imposition of hands by the Presbytery.

Art. 12. We believe that none but regularly immersed believers have a right to commune at the Lord's table.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. This Association shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.
2. To expedite business, committees may be appointed at the discretion of the body.
3. The Moderator shall be deemed judge of good order and shall have a right to call to order at any time, and any brother not satisfied with his decision on any point of order, may appeal to the body on the same day, but no other time.
4. Every motion, made and seconded, shall come under consideration of the Association except withdrawn by him who made it.
5. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided or withdrawn before another shall be offered.
6. Every one who speaks in debate shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator, and shall not be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject or use words of personal reflection.
7. The Moderator, when addressed for leave to speak, shall signify the right of the applicant by naming him or otherwise.
8. No person shall speak more than once on the same subject without leave of the body.
9. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which tends to interrupt public speaking.
10. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission from the Moderator.
11. The Moderator shall give the casting vote, and be entitled to the privileges of speaking, as any other, providing he appoint another, in his seat during the time.
12. The appellation Brother, shall be used in our address, one to another.
13. The names of delegates shall be called as often as the Association may direct.
14. Any delegate leaving before the adjournment without leave will be marked on the minutes as absent.
15. Any member violating the above rules may be reprovved as the body may think proper, only on the day the offense shall have occurred.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS	CLERK	CLERK'S P. O.	Members Last Reported	Increase by			Decrease by			Present Members	Preaching Sabbaths
					Baptism	Restoration	Exclusion	Letter	Death			
Arkadelphia	I. Windsor	G. W. Abbott.	Arkadelphia	61				1		61	3	
Cane Creek.	J. W. Trotter.	Z. Y. Roberts.	Warrior.	70	15	6	1		2	93	26	
Mt. High.	J. C. Thomas.	J. O. Shipp	Willow.	28						23	2	
Mt. Zion.	J. E. Creel.	W. A. Mayfield.	Warrior.	83	12			1	7	86	1	
Pisgah.	T. P. Vandiver	H. H. Buzbee.	Phillips	27	8	2	1			42	1	
New Hope.	J. C. Thomas	C. Whitfield.	Blount Springs.	42	16	9		3	6	51	3	
Fairview.	T. A. Hancock.	G. W. Grayles.	Horse Creek.	33						33	2	
Union (J. C.)	G. S. Sloan	W. R. Speakman	Partridge.	83	4	8	2	1	6	90	3	
Pilgrim's Rest.	T. P. Vandiver	R. Kemp	Palos.	16	17	4			1	41	2	
Mt. Olive.	W. H. Absher	Hubert James.	Blount Springs.	62	2				1	57	4	
New Antioch.	T. A. Hancock,	J. W. Dean.	Garrison Point.	59	5	2		4	13	49	3	
Mt. Joy.	F. M. Leith	A. P. Wilson.	Garrison Point.	53	2	1		5		50	2	
Sulphur Springs.	J. W. Trotter.	A. S. Young.	Blount Springs.	141	7			1	11	135	1	
Mt. Hope.	F. M. Leith.	J. M. Whorten	Arkadelphia	47	11	4	1	1		62	4	
Good Hope.	T. A. Hancock	R. M. Robins.	Robins' Roads	48							1	
Union (B. C.)	I. Windsor	C. F. Hearn	Bangor.	32							2	
Pleasant Valley	J. W. Trotter.	E. Dean	Arkadelphia	14								
New Prospect	T. E. Hayes	J. H. Anderson.	Bremen.	24								
Harmony	J. W. Trotter	J. D. Griffith.	Sloan.	110	13	3	3		1	132	4	
				1033	112	39	8	16	48	5	972	

NOTE.—Printers have caused delay in Minutes. Also say 25th when it ought to be 26th Annual Session. Each one can correct this with pen and ink. I had 500 copies printed.

1940
3
1923



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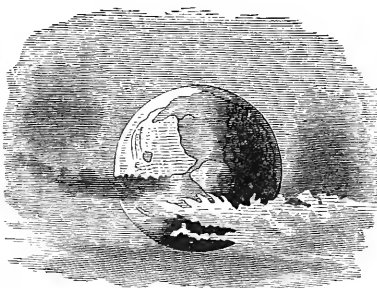
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